Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

CLAIMS

1. (original) Method for bit-rate saving encoding of audio signals using a psychoacoustic model, comprising the steps of:
   performing a Fourier Transformation with a length of L samples for calculation of a minimum masking threshold by calculating k subtransformations over 2^N samples with $k \cdot 2^N = L$;
   fitting together the results of the k subtransformations;
   arranging L samples of the audio signal in a frame for transmission.

2 (original) Method according to claim 1, wherein the number k of subtransformations is not a power of 2.

3. (original) Method according to claim 1, wherein before fitting together the results of the k transformations, these are multiplied with phase correction factors.

4. (currently amended) Method according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1, wherein the Fourier Transformation is performed within the algorithm for the psychoacoustic model 2 of MPEG I Audio Layer II and wherein the frame length L is 1152 samples.

5. (original) Method according to claim 4, wherein k=9 subtransformations with a length of $M=2^N = 128$ samples are calculated.

6. (original) Encoder for performing the method according to claim 1.

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